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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, a separate question may be put."

Payyanur-Padiyatchal road.

* 628 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) under what class the Payyanur-Padiyatchal road, Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar, has been included; and

(*b*) when this road was last repaired and who is responsible for its maintenance?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A stretch of one mile and five furlongs of the road from Payyanur to Vellur has been classified as ' State Highway ' and the remaining stretch of 13 miles and 6 furlongs from Vellur to Padiyatchal as ' Major District Road '. The Government are responsible for the maintenance of the State Highway and the District Board is responsible for the maintenance of the Major District Road. The road is being maintained annually and necessary repairs to the road for the year 1953–54 have been carried out."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, are the Government aware of the fact that the condition of this road maintained by the Malabar District Board is so bad that the bus-owners, drivers and conductors have to perform at more than one place the work of sappers and miners, to put up temporary bridges and people who have not insured their lives are afraid to travel by this road? Will the Government see that this road is maintained at least in a tolerably good condition for traffic? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—" Sir, the matter will be looked into."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, as far as this road is concerned, this is the worst road in Malabar. If anybody travels through it, it could be seen that everywhere the board ' caution ' is put. If one bridge is destroyed and as soon as that bridge is restored, another bridge is destroyed."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" By whom? "

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" It is due to negligence on the part of the Public Works Department. Even when the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam came to Malabar, the bridge at Kundara was destroyed. But two hours before he was due to arrive there the Public Works Department put up some planks to make the Hon. Minister understand that the road was quite good. Sir, may I request the Hon. the Minister in charge of Local Administration to make an enquiry into this matter of gross negligence on the part of the Public Works Department, and the Malabar District Board? Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to look into the matter and see that this road is rendered fit for traffic? "

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THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMY PADAYACHI :—" Yes, Sir, the Government will look into all the allegations made by the hon. Member but, at the same time, may I request the hon. Member to say who was responsible for the destruction of these bridges? "

Purchase of foodgrains from other States.

* 629 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of foodgrains including cereals purchased from Nellore and Tadepalligudem in Andhra State and from other Northern States during 1953; and

(*b*) how much sales tax had been collected in respect of the same?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

" (*b*) The information is not available."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :—" சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, வட இந்தியாவிலிருந்து இங்கு தானியங்களை அனுப்பக்கூடிய மொத்த வியாபாரிகள் அனுமதேயப் பெயரில் இங்கு இருக்கக்கூடிய வியாபாரிகளுக்கு அனுப்புகிறார்கள். இங்கிருக்கக்கூடிய வியாபாரிகள் அனுமதேயப் பெயரில் அதை வாங்கி, ஆயிரம் மூட்டைகள் வந்தால் 250 மூட்டைகள் வந்ததாகக் கணக்கில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு, பாக்கியிருப்பதை மறைத்துவிடுகிறார்கள். இதற்கு விற்பனை வரி போடுவதற்கு சர்க்கார் என்னநடவடிக்கை எடுக்கும்?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This question relates to Government procurement and Government movement of rice from other States. I do not think the allegations made by the hon. Member will be applicable to these cases."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM.—" சாதாரண வியாபாரிகள் மற்ற ராஜ்யத்தி லிருந்து நம் ராஜ்யத்திற்கு சரக்கு அனுப்பும்போது, அந்த ராஜ்ய சர்க்கார் அவர்களிடமிருந்து விற்பனை வரி வாங்கிவிட்டால், அந்த ராஜ்ய சர்க்காரிட மிருந்து விற்பனை வரி வாங்கும் பழக்கம் உண்டா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the Government have nothing to do with the rice as such. They give their assistance in procuring it and moving it from other States. The question of collecting sales tax does not arise as the Governments could not be treated as private individuals and assessed to sales tax. We have no such jurisdiction."

Appointment of ex-tramway men in the City Transport Service.

* 630 *Q.*—SRI S. RAMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether applications were called for from the ex-tramway men for appointment in the City Transport Service ;

(*b*) if so, the number of applications received; and

(*c*) the number of applicants (i) selected and (ii) appointed?

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 474 infra.